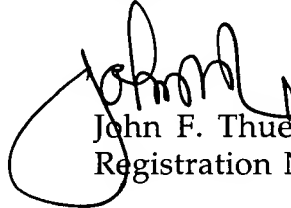


claims 14-15 depend from claim 13, claim 23 depends from claim 22, claim 25 depends from claim 24, and claims 31 and 32 depend from claim 30.

Claims 2-4, 9-12, 16-17, 19, and 26-29. have been canceled. It is believed that claims 1, 5-8, 13-15, 18, 20-25, and 30-32 are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if any action other than a Notice of Allowability is to be forthcoming and if the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,


John F. Thuente
Registration No. 29,595

Patterson & Keough, P.A.
4800 IDS Center
80 South 8th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-2100
Telephone: (612) 349-5747

Please grant any extension of time necessary for entry; charge any fee due to Deposit Account No. 16-0631.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

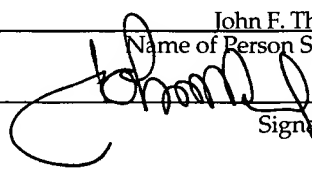
I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

25 SEPTEMBER 1998

Date of Deposit

John F. Thuente

Name of Person Signing Certificate


Signature